STATEMENT OF THE JOINT CONFERENCE OF POLITICAL PARTIES AND SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS

The Joint Conference of Political Parties and Social Organizations held on February 16 in Pyongyang against "ROK-U.S. Economic and Technical Agreement" concluded recently between the U.S. imperialists and the Chang Myun clique issued a statement.

Follows the full text of the statement:

The U.S. imperialists and the Chang Myun regime of South Korea are now committing a grave criminal act against the Korean people.

The whole land of South Korea has been devastated and the people are shivering in cold and hunger, but the Chang Myun regime is perpetrating a new, country-selling, treacherous act to ensure further unlimitedly the U.S. imperialist aggressors' colonial plunder.

The "ROK-U.S. Economic and Technical Agreement" concluded on February 8 between the United States and the South Korean authorities is an unequal agreement and a humiliating document, the parallel of which can be rarely seen.

The "agreement" is aimed at further tightly binding up South Korea with the colonialist chain of U.S. imperialism.

Through the "agreement" U.S. imperialism is going to exercise complete control and supervision over the political, economic, military and all other domains of South Korea including the examination of the budget. The South Korean authorities will be placed only under unilateral obligations.

The "agreement" not only incorporates the provisions of a series of predatory "agreements" imposed upon South Korea by the U.S. imperialists in the past but contains new, more harsh subjugating conditions. Under the "agreement," the South Korean authorities must abide by the laws and regulations of the United States in all their activities, submit all informations on their activities to the U.S. side, undergo its complete control and provide maximum man-power and material resources needed for achieving the aim of the U.S. aggressors.

Not only the so-called "special missions and their members" fulfilling the responsibility of the U.S. government in South Korea but also contractors with the U.S. government, employees of the U.S. government or its agencies and even their dependents will exercise privileges corresponding to diplomatic personnel and will be exempted from taxation and the South Korean authorities are forced to "cooperate entirely" with them.

In a word, under this "agreement" the U.S. imperialists are scheming to reaffirm and further strengthen all the control they have exercised hitherto as a colonial governor-general.

This is a perfectly treacherous agreement, as denounced by various circles of South Korea as another "1905 Protectorate Treaty."

The cause of all the misfortunes **and** tribulations of the South Korean people today lies in the occupation of South Korea by the U.S. imperialists and their colonial plunder.

Due to the aggressive policy pursued by the U.S. imperialists under the spurious name of "aid," millions of unemployed on the verge of starvation are wandering about the streets.

It is also a cursed outcome of the U.S. "aid" that the agriculture of South Korea has been so devastated and all towns and

villages are ringing with cries of foodless and land deserting peasants.

But, the Chang Myun regime not only inherited the country-selling policy of Syngman Rhee but is going one step further than him in stepping up the U.S. imperialists' subjugation of South Korea, devastating the South Korean economy and driving the people's living into a mire of misery.

Who can tolerate the treacherous "agreement" concluded recently between the Chang Myun clique and the U.S. imperialists, if he has national conscience?

We participants of the Joint Conference of Political Parties and Social Organizations resolutely denounce and repudiate the grave treacherous crime of the Chang Myun hordes who are following in the footsteps of arch traitors Li Wan Yong and Syngman Rhee and solemnly state in the name of the entire Korean people that we do not recognize, as in the past, any "treaty" or "agreement" cooked up by the U.S. imperialists.

It is quite natural that the humiliating "ROK-U.S. Economic and Technical Agreement" has now aroused great national indignation among the South Korean people of all walks of life.

Voices rejecting the treacherous "agreement" and demanding its cancellation are ringing from even within the South Korean National Assembly.

Today almost all political parties and organizations in South Korea are unanimously opposing and rejecting the "agreement" aimed at turning South Korea completely into a colony of the United States.

Seventeen political parties and public organizations of South Korea organized a "Joint Struggle Committee against ROK-U.S. Economic and Technical Agreement" and decided to launch a nation-wide movement against the "agreement."

University students and citizens also held a meeting for struggling against the "agreement" and are demanding its immediate withdrawal.

Such struggle is a righteous, patriotic struggle for rejecting all foreign domination and for the national identity and self-independence of the nation.

We fully support it.

Dismayed by the struggle of the people of all strata against the treacherous "agreement," the Chang Myun clique are shamelessly trying to shield the "agreement" and threaten and suppress the people, following suit of traitor Syngman Rhee.

This only exposes all the more clearly the traitorous nature of the Chang Myun clique and arouses the resentment of the people.

In face of the mounting struggle of the South Korean people against the "agreement," the U.S. imperialist aggressors are running wild, brazenly claiming that "nothing can be more equitable or precautionary than this agreement," which gives them the right to supervise the South Korean economy, and going the length of declaring that the South Korean people have "a short memory" and that "we will not budge an inch."

This vividly reveals the heinous aggressive nature of the U.S. imperialists and is an intolerable national insult and open challenge to the Korean people.

The entire Korean people will fight more courageously against the criminal aggressive machinations of the U.S. imperialists to turn South Korea into their permanent colony and military base and even into an appendix of the Japanese monopoly capital.

The people will never tolerate the country-selling, treacherous acts of the Chang Myun clique for leaving another stigma in the history of the nation.

Let us give rise to a nation-wide mass movement against the country-selling "agreement" and make the flames of indignation of the whole nation sweep all parts of the country!

Let us see to it that the dirty "agreement" is destroyed in the flames.

Anyone who expresses his support in any form to this criminal document should bear in mind that he is repeating the crime of the "five traitors of 1905."

Today the popular masses are demanding that foreign power be rejected and the present catastrophe of South Korea be overcome on the principle of national self-independence.

Why should the South Korean people be made a victim of the U.S. imperialist aggressors?

Why should we drive South Korea into a chaos, begging the U.S. imperialists' predatory "aid"?

Is it impossible for the Korean nation to develop independently? Yes, it is possible.

With a long history of 5,000 years, a bril-

liant cultural tradition and abundant natural resources, our industrious, sagacious and courageous nation has enough strength to stand on its own feet.

A fine example of this is provided by the reality of the northern part.

The people in the North have been able to lay the foundation of a powerful self-supporting national economy as we see today in such a brief span of period thanks to the devoted struggle they waged in reliance upon their own resources and ability, firmly seizing the power in their hands. A rich and powerful fatherland will be constructed and the North and South Korean people will live well together, if they march in one body on the basis of the powerful heavy and light industries of the North.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the people in the North are eagerly awaiting the day when they can share their brilliant achievements with the South Korean brothers and sisters at an early date.

The Korean people have no other way out but achieving the peaceful unification of the country by themselves and realizing at an early date economic and cultural interchange and cooperation between the North and South.

To rely upon foreign power is a road of ruining the country.

All the unequal treaties imposed from outside should be scrapped and the U.S. imperialist aggressive troops, the cardinal obstacle to unification, be withdrawn from South Korea at once.

Let us further intensify the nation-wide struggle for repulsing all the foreign aggressive forces and solving our own destiny with the might of our nation itself!

Let us unite closer all our forces and come out more vigorously in the nation-wide struggle!

Let us realize at an early date self-independent peaceful unification, the aspiration of the nation of thirty million, and negotiation and interchange between the North and South!

February 16, 1961

Workers' Party of Korea
North Korean Democratic Party
Chundokyo Chungwoo Party
Democratic Independence Party
Toiling People's Party
Healthy People's Association
General Confederation of Trade Unions of Korea
Korean Democratic Youth League
Korean Democratic Women's Union
Korean Peasants' Union
Korean Journalists' Union
Korean Writers' Union
Korean Musicians' Union
Korean Artists' Union
Korean Students Committee
General Federation of Industrial Technique of Korea
General Federation of Agricultural and Forestry Technique of Korea
Korean Architects' Union
Korean Society for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries
Korean Democratic Scientists' Association
Korean Buddhists' Federation
Industrial Construction Society
Korean Film Workers' Union
Korean Dramatists' Union
Korean Dancers' Union
Korean Cameramen's Union
South Korean Christians' Federation